Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (new): A transgenic plant that has greater tolerance to at least one abiotic stress than a wild-type plant of the same species, wherein the transgenic plant comprises:

a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising a conserved domain with at least 71% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 64;

wherein the polypeptide is expressed in the transgenic plant; and

the abiotic stress is selected from the group consisting of cold, drought, salt, and sucrose.

Claim 22 (new): The transgenic plant of Claim 21, wherein the polypeptide comprises a conserved domain with at least 76% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 64.

Claim 23 (new): The transgenic plant of Claim 21, wherein the polypeptide comprises a conserved domain with at least 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 64.

Claim 24 (new): The transgenic plant of Claim 21, wherein the polypeptide comprises a conserved domain with at least 81% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 64.

Claim 25 (new): The transgenic plant of Claim 21, wherein the polypeptide comprises a conserved domain with at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 64.

Claim 26 (new): The transgenic plant of Claim 21, wherein the polypeptide comprises a conserved domain with at least 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 64.

Claim 27 (new): The transgenic plant of Claim 21, wherein the polynucleotide comprises a constitutive, inducible, or tissue-specific promoter operably linked to the nucleotide sequence.

Claim 28 (new): The transgenic plant of claim 21, wherein the transgenic plant is more tolerant than the wild-type plant to germination at 4° -8° C or a six hour exposure to 4° -8° C during seedling growth.

Claim 29 (new): The transgenic plant of claim 21, wherein the transgenic plant is more tolerant during its germination than the wild-type plant to a medium comprising 80% Murashige-Skoog medium and 150 mM NaCl.

Claim 30 (new): The transgenic plant of claim 21, wherein the transgenic plant is more tolerant during its germination than the wild-type plant to a medium comprising 80% Murashige-Skoog medium and 9.4% sucrose.

Claim 31 (new): A seed comprising a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising a conserved domain with at least 71% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 64;

wherein the seed is produced by a transgenic plant that has greater tolerance to an abiotic stress than a wild-type plant of the same species;

wherein the abiotic stress is selected from the group consisting of cold, drought, salt, and sucrose; and

wherein the transgenic plant comprises the polynucleotide and the polypeptide is expressed in the transgenic plant.

Claim 32 (new): The seed of Claim 31, wherein the polypeptide comprises a conserved domain with at least 76% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 64.

Claim 33 (new): The seed of Claim 31, wherein the polypeptide comprises a conserved domain with at least 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 64.

Claim 34 (new): The seed of Claim 31, wherein the polypeptide comprises a conserved domain with at least 81% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 64.

Claim 35 (new): The seed of Claim 31, wherein the polypeptide comprises a conserved domain with at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 64.

Claim 36 (new): The seed of Claim 31, wherein the polypeptide comprises a conserved domain with at least 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 64.

Claim 37 (new): The seed of claim 31, wherein the transgenic plant is more tolerant during its germination than the wild-type plant to germination at 4° -8° C or a six hour exposure to 4° -8° C during seedling growth.

Claim 38 (new): The seed of claim 31, wherein the transgenic plant is more tolerant during its germination than the wild-type plant to a medium comprising 80% Murashige-Skoog medium and 150 mM NaCl.

Claim 39 (new): The seed of claim 31, wherein the transgenic plant is more tolerant than the wild-type plant to a medium comprising 80% Murashige-Skoog medium and 9.4% sucrose.

Claim 40 (new): A transgenic plant that has greater tolerance to drought than a wild-type plant of the same species, wherein the transgenic plant comprises:

a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 64; and

wherein the polypeptide is expressed in the transgenic plant.